



**FEBUARY 2022**

**VOLUME 19 ISSUE 02**

**©Radio Club of Tacoma W7DK**

# FROM THE EDITOR!

FEBUARY 2022!

A month that started out so well quickly degraded into a big mess in Europe as the Russians invaded the Ukraine. A sad day indeed and as I write this in Early March of 2022, there is still a lot of uncertainty as to why the invasion and why the Russian President could do such a thing!

Of course this has not touched many of us personally as of yet, but we have club members here in Tacoma who have family and friends in the region. So it would be trite to say the usual things about thoughts and prayers, but say it anyway, and maybe someone will be listening...

Other ways to contribute as things develop!

On another note, there are still indications that sunspot cycle 25 is beginning to take off. Almost daily openings on 10, 12 and 15 meters to all over the world! Many of us are getting on and working folks here in the USA and folks in Europe, South America, Asia, and wherever!

Good times are coming back soon! (we hope!)

On a related note, its not that long until Field Day. Adam W2NCC is actively looking for both an operating venue and operators to do the stuff that needs to be done!

Please let him, or any other club officer know if you're interested in taking part in the fun!

Lastly, and personally, the editor of this fine publication, Gary WG7X (that's me!) recently joined the ranks of the honorably retired folks in February. Like so many others of you, I will have a lot more time to get busy with club activities. Hopefully, I can also begin to improve the "Loggers Bark" a bit. I've been very, very busy with work and then with arranging my "after work" life, but hopefully that's all arranged by now!

Wish me luck!

Until next month, 73 es CUL Gary WG7X



Page 1: Editors report.

Page 2: Board of Directors meeting minutes.

Page 4: General Meeting minutes.

Page 7: A note from our treasurer concerning IRS deductibles

Page 8: A new addition to the Loggers Bark! W7DK operators report.

Page 9: New decorations for W7DK HF room!

Radio Club of Tacoma  
Board of Directors Meeting  
February 2, 2022

**Meeting called to order** at 19:00 by President Mike W7XTZ

**Officers and Directors Present**

President	Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Vice President	Adam Barbera W2NCC
Secretary	Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE
Treasurer	Steve Dightman AF7YD (via Zoom)
Board	Bruce Hanson WE7P (via Zoom)
Board	Paul Matney W7PFU
Board	Doug Schafer AB7DG
Board	Red Cranefield WB7EC
Board	Phil Pia K7PIA

**Quorum?**

A quorum was present and 16 members attended all or part of the meeting in person or via Zoom.

**Silent Key or Illness**

Nothing reported

**Approval of Minutes** of January 5, 2022 RCT BOD meeting available to board members online. **Phil K7PIA moved** to approve the minutes as published. **Motion was seconded and approved.**

**Secretary's Report (W7MKE)**

Mike W7MKE reported the Crawford Mountain 10 Year Lease was received and was mailed back to the DNR yesterday. Also last week Mike filed the Federal 990-N. Doug Schafer and Mike looked over the Pierce County Property list and filed it. Membership Renewals, magazines and typical utility bills etc., are also coming in.

**Treasurer's Report (AF7YD)**

Steve AF7YD presented a written financial report detailing income over the last five years (since 2017). The report indicated an upward trend in total income over that period. He carefully went over the report line by line so the BOD could fully understand the numbers.

Steve AF7YD and Randy WB4SPB explored using PayPal for membership payments and their experiment seemed to show it was possible. Charges are \$0.48 + 2% for each transaction. Steve reports the only tracking PayPal supplies is the payer's name. Another issue is PayPal's pay button is only good for one price. Steve's prior experience with other systems cost them \$850/year making PayPal less costly to use if we go that way.

**Committee / Reports Membership (W7XH/K7GRS)**

Mike W7XH reported that promotional members are converting to full membership plus other new members are joining. Mike and George K7GRS are also working on the database, correcting some of the data into a more consistent format. Work is also progressing on planning for the upcoming mailings. All books, ledgers and database information are up to date but there are some issues with who can access the database and that is requiring some programming updates.

**Library (AD7AV)**

No report

**Training (AD7AB)**

The next schedule Technician Class is Feb. 5-6.

**VE (AC7WW)**

No report

**Info Tech and Website (WB4SPB)**

Randy WB4SPB reported the library computer is dead and probably needs a new motherboard so he does not know if it can be restored. The laptop now at the library desk seems to be working. Other computers seem to be working. Randy reported hearing that State Farm was retiring some of their computer gear and they may donate it. Randy has applied for a donation but has not heard anything so far. He reports the Club Website seems up to date and working fine. If anyone finds out-of-date information, please let Randy know.

**HF Operations (K7PIA)**

Phil K7PIA reported that all the HF stations are working. Please see [www.contestcalendar.com](http://www.contestcalendar.com) for upcoming contests. Please let Phil know if you need help working the radios or working a contest and he will help. Al N7OMS reported completing some items that needed to be addressed in the HF room. Al, Bob Purdom AD7LJ and Mike W7MKE worked on the patch panel and jumper cables. Also many of the contest award certificates the club has won over the years have been collected to be framed and mounted in the HF room.

**Tower (K7MO)**

No report.

**Repeater Ops (N7OMS)**

Al N7OMS reported that the new controller for the 147.280 repeater is still to be configured and installed. The repeaters seem to be working fine. Larry KD7VOM used the 147.380 Crawford repeater recently and reported it working fine.

**Facilities Management (W2NCC)**

Adam W2NCC reported, as before, that some lights were replaced and front hedges are trimmed, also the handicap ramp at back door was temporarily repaired. He questioned if the yard waste is being picked up. It is possible that the can is not properly placed. Adam has several projects planned for summer.

**Property Management (WB7EC)**

Red WB7EC reported that Last month we received \$659 from PMT sales. He submitted a list with seven items for disposal (list attached). Red WB7EC moved to dispose of the listed items, motion was seconded and passed. Red also showed a report of 2021 PMT income which was an amount earned even without a Mike & Key event (report attached). PMT is looking for helpers as Jack K7DBU is retiring following Mike & Key and Greta KF7KSW is moving. Red mentioned that one advantage of working for PMT is you get first choice on purchasing donated items. Red then brought up the fact that PMT cannot dispose of items valued over \$30 without Board's approval and he felt this was too restrictive. Bruce WE7P moved that items valued at \$50 or more needed BOD approval prior to disposal and items less than \$50 may be disposed by PMT without BOD approval. Motion was seconded. Discussion occurred about making sure that the lower cost items be made available to club committees first. The motion passed.

**Museum (KD7SV)**

No report but both Randy WB4SPB and Al N7OMS mention they were impressed with Dan's organization and attitude toward the museum.

**Weds Workshop (WB4SPB)**

TBD

**General Meeting**

Adam W2NCC reported he had someone lined up to do a presentation via Zoom on Space Weather.

**Unfinished Business****Bylaws Committee report (W7XTZ, AB7DG, W7PFU, K7GRS)**

Mike W7XTZ thanked the committee on their faithful service and stated they have a routine time for meetings and have worked hard on this review. Doug AB7DG reported that the review is done section by section to determine if the bylaws are reflecting what is actually going on and if those practices reflect compliance with revisions of the WA State Statutes for nonprofit groups. There are several areas that will need BOD decisions on how to proceed. The committee review is about finished, and the BOD will then receive it for their inputs.

Question: is the same procedure going to be done with the Standing Rules? The Bylaws committee has not worked on those rules yet. Discussion seemed to be that the Standing Rules should also be reviewed as they date back to 2008.

### **New Business**

Steve AF7YD stated that he thinks there should be a chairperson for the workbench. However our Bylaws do not mention a workbench committee, as such no need for a chairperson. However differences in Board Members opinions on this issue lead to Mike W7XTZ asking us to table the discussion until the next board meeting.


Adam W2NCC mentioned that there is discussion in the club about getting new HF radios. Adam wants to raise money specifically earmarked for those new radio purchases. Adam proposed getting one or two Icom 7610 radios to replace the Elecraft and Icom Pro III. Also possibly getting an Icom 9100 for the VHF/UHF station. He also indicated that some club members have stated they would donate funds to that purpose.

### **Activity Reports, Discussion Topics, Announcements**

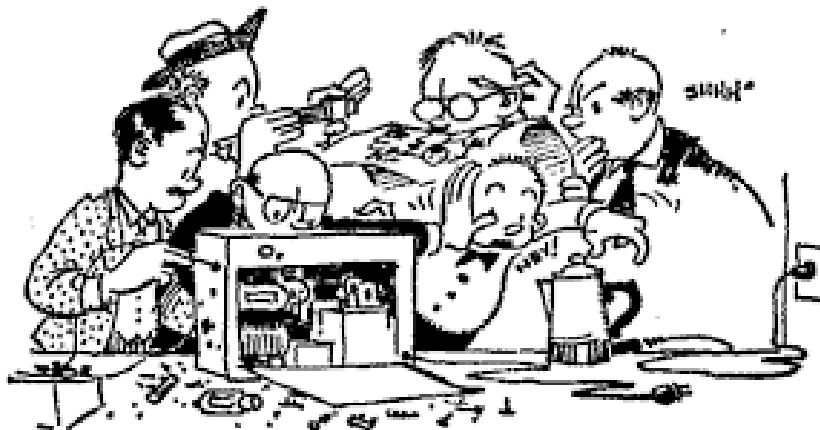
Mike W7MKE was asked to make it an agenda item for March to review action items from 2021 to see if they should be part of standing rules. Mike W7MKE was asked to make it an agenda item to discuss if there should be a workbench chairperson.

Larry Watson indicated that Standing Rules are business administration and are different than policy statements and they need to be separated appropriately. Larry's Words of wisdom: He's not opposed to our plan to get new radios but there may be other ways to get the money other than using club funds. But sometimes we forget to tell the rest of the club what we are doing and we need to be better at getting the news out. Gary's WG7X words of wisdom are that the club has been good about giving money for needed equipment or projects.

**Adjournment at: 21:08**



**Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE**  
**RCT Secretary**



**OBVIOUS THINGS SHOULD ALL BE CHECKED OUT**

**Radio Club of Tacoma****General Meeting Agenda****February 9, 2022**

At clubhouse & Via Zoom format

Officers and Directors Present

**Vice President** Adam Barbera W2NCC

**Secretary** Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

**Treasurer** Steve Dightman AF7YD

**Board** Doug Schafer AB7DG

**Board** Phil Pia K7PIA (via Zoom)

**Board** Paul Matney K7PFU

**Board** Red Cranefield WB7EC (via Zoom)

**Board** Bruce Hansen WE7P (via Zoom)

Meeting Called to Order at: 19:00 by Vice-President Adam W2NCC

**Flag salute**

**Quorum?** (10% of membership required to conduct business) A total of 26 people attended the meeting in person or via ZOOM. A quorum of 25 active members was not obtained. The Attendance list is attached.

**Welcome and Acknowledgement of New Members and Visitors** (Please introduce yourselves)

Our Presenter tonight is Bob Steenburg AD0IU visiting via ZOOM from Colorado. BJ Rollison WA7WJR is a new RCT Member number 3001 who took some training/testing here and is also a member of W7DX club.

**Health and Welfare/Silent Key & Illness**

Nothing reported

**Program: Rob Steenburg AD0IU from NOAA on: Amateur Radio and Space Weather**

A PDF file on Rob's presentation will be available via our website [www.W7DK.org](http://www.W7DK.org)

**Secretary's Report**

Mike W7MKE reported that tax filings for Federal, State and County have been filed. Also we've received our 10-year lease agreement from the DNR for Crawford Mountain. We notarized and sent in our check and proof of insurance with the lease and are waiting for our copy of the signed lease to be returned. Otherwise, simply routine bills, magazines and membership renewals are coming in.

**Treasurer's Report**

Steve AF7YD reported we are currently paid up on everything. Recently Property Insurance was paid. Last BOD meeting Steve reported results of income vs outgo over the last 5 years along with a significant explanation of trends. Steve is trying to do some additional forecasting using both QuickBooks and Excel.

**Committee / Activity Reports****Membership (W7XH)**

Mike W7XH and George K7GRS reported significant work performed on the membership data base and website correcting data and improving access and reporting capabilities. They reported membership as standing at 247 down about 60 from the end of last year. Mike is contacting those who did not renew.

**Training (AD7AB)**

No report

**VE Report (AC7WW)**

Leonard KA7NWF and Mike W7XH who were VE's last night reported some general information on the testing.

**HF Operations (K7PIA)**

Phil reports all HF stations are working. Check [www.contestcalendar.com](http://www.contestcalendar.com) for radio sport. This weekend CQ Worldwide and then ARRL DX (CW) is coming up. He reports there is still work on going to the VHF/UHF station, patch panel and tower. Randy WB4SPB reported working on and in checking the log, he suggested that we might publish in the BARK who's making contacts using the club radios.

**Repeater Operations (N7OMS)**

No report

**IT Report (WB4SPB)**

The Clubhouse IT systems are all working OK. We will continue using the laptop for the library computer for now. He's working on the ECOM computer at the VHF/UHF Station to get it setup.

**Museum (KD7SV)**

Dan reports that the museum radios are operating but in a week or so he will move the GLOBE Champion and put in the Drake TR-4 so more people can use the antique radios as more operators like to use phone rather than CW. They made 34 contacts in the Classic Exchange last Sunday.

**Property Management (WB7EC)**

Red WB4EC lost Zoom contact so Bruce WE7P reported for him that Last month we took in \$659. For those members who were looking for deals, your opportunity is lost now as pricing will now go up to Mike&Key pricing.

**Facilities Management (W2NCC)**

Have updated lighting on the front porch and have fixed the wheelchair access ramp at the back door. More activities will be happening as weather improves.

**4th Wed. Night Activity (WB4SPB)**

Randy WB4SPB reports the program is TBD.

**Bark Editor (WG7X)**

Gary reports that people should continue to send in information for the BARK.

**Unfinished Business / Announcements**

Doug Schafer reported that the Bylaws committee is meeting regularly on Tuesday and has about finished going through the Bylaws. The committee's next step is to go to the BOD to get some policy decisions prior to drafting a set of bylaws for Club approval.

**New Business**

Nothing reported

**Show and Tell**

Kevin KK7KJC showed that he's received his Mike & Key prepaid admission ticket.

**Tuning and Traffic**

Gary WG7X reported lots of activity on some of the higher frequency bands 10- 17M but mostly on digital. In particular 12M is very active.

**Announcements**

Sea Pac reservations open next Tuesday February 15th and you can get your tickets for the event online then. Sea Pac is first weekend in June in Seaside, OR.

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**Special Nonprofit Donation Tax Deduction for 2021**

A special IRS 2021 Nonprofit Donation rule allows Individuals up to \$300 and married joint filers up to \$600 tax deduction. Normally these deductions are available only if you itemize your taxes.

If you would like to take advantage of this special deduction and have not yet received donation receipt from Radio Club of Tacoma for 2021 please contact me and I will get a donation receipt to you.

More specifics can be found at <https://www.irs.gov>. Search for: **IR-2021-247, December 13, 2021.**

73

Steve AF7YD, [@w7dk.org](mailto:@w7dk.org)



## The Mighty DK's!

### Monthly QSO Report

Each month in the *Bark* the Radio Club of Tacoma recognizes the members and guests who have made non-contest QSOs using the HF stations at our clubhouse. Saturday Open House, especially, is a time when members have access to this equipment. Why not sit down at one of our operating desks and make a contact or two? Assistance is almost always available for those unfamiliar with the equipment, and if your license class doesn't permit HF operation, ask the denizens of the HF Room or the Saturday clubhouse host to help you find a suitably-licensed control operator to sit with you.

It's a feather in the club's hat for the call sign of **The Mighty DK** to be heard on the airwaves. So get on the air and get your name in the *Bark*! (Don't forget to enter your call sign as the operator into our logging program.)

#### QSOs in January 2022

OP call sign unknown: 3  
Andy KE7RTB: 35

#### QSOs in February 2022

OP call sign unknown: 1  
David W7GEL: 2  
Wade W7ITL: 9  
John KJ7ZPD: 18  
Mike W7MKE: 186

Below, a couple of pictures taken during ARRL September Sweepstakes at the RCT clubhouse in 2019.

Lower left, Anna K7ANA at the microphone on the Elecraft K3. Lower right, Adam W2NCC and Verna KF7SCB working the second station, a Flex 3000. Some prefer the older style of the Elecraft and some prefer the Flex! Fortunately the club station is superbly equipped for any who wants to operate. Pick a radio, make sure there's an antenna attached! Then pick a band, making sure that you are on a band that you are licensed for, and have fun! Easy! If you want to operate a band that you're not currently licensed for, there is no shortage of folks who can help you get some valuable experience. Then you too, can be on this new, prestigious list! We use the N3FJP logging S/W to track usage, but don't panic: we can show you how to use that too!





Mike, W7MKE shows us the new look for the HF station. Mike is our club secretary and he is in progress with finding all of the various W7DK operating awards, station maps and stuff like that to upgrade the looks of the HF station.

Now, all we will need to fully fill the walls will be QSL cards!

I'll have to ask the W7DK management about that... Ed.



## THE CLUB LINEUP

### CLUB OFFICERS

President: Mike Mikuchonis –W7XTZ w7xtz@w7dk.org

Vice Pres: Adam Barbera, W2NCC - w2ncc@w7dk.org

Secretary: Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE - w7mke@w7dk.org

Treasurer: Steve Dightman, AF7YD - af7yd@w7dk.org

### 5 BOARD MEMBERS

Bruce Hanson, WE7P - we7p@w7dk.org

Paul Matney, W7PFU - w7pfu@w7dk.org

Verna Lilly KF7SBC- KF7SCB@w7dk.org

Red Cranefield, WB7EC - wb7ec@w7dk.org

Phil Pia, K7PIA - k7pia@w7dk.org

THE *LOGGER'S BARK* is the *OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA*... and is published by RCT, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411. The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non-profit corporation as defined by law. All proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. The Radio Club of Tacoma's Club House is located at 1249 Washington St, Tacoma, WA 98405, phone: 253-759-2040.

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The Fine Print: The *Logger's Bark* is published once a month for the membership of The Radio Club of Tacoma or interested ham radio enthusiasts. The *Bark* is delivered by PDF file on the club's website: [www.w7dk.org](http://www.w7dk.org).

Permission is granted to use any or all portions of articles published in The *Logger's Bark* if a credit line is included in the article. Please seek permission from the original writer also.

**MEMBERSHIP INFO:** FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) membership is \$35 per calendar year or \$30 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay \$20 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Full-time students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are \$20 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

[www.w7dk.org](http://www.w7dk.org) [LINK] - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website.

### RADIO CLUB REPEATERS

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

Crawford Mountain 147.380 + PL=103.5 (E of Olympia © 1500 ft ASL)

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

North Tacoma: 145.21 – PL=141.3